

Why should not unsold remainders be held at the original price for future buyers five, ten, or more years hence? Even if sold at a reduction the publishers will be ahead more than by destroying the remainders. As the matter thus appears to us the proposal to destroy the remainders is wholly in the interest of the purchaser. This is difficult for us to understand when, as we believe, the work is purchased by scientists for its usefulness rather than as an investment. Surely science would be better served by the holding and subsequent distribution of the unsold work.

There may be a question here of the relation of the original selling price to the cost of production, which, however can only be considered with certain facts in hand. If at the completion of the work the publishers have not sold enough copies to pay for the publication, they do not add any to their income by destroying the remainders. If they have paid out on the copies sold and still have remainders which are to be destroyed, then it would seem that the subscribers take the loss. Perhaps after all we must realize that most publication, even of a scientific nature, is a commercial proposition, and is not to be judged by ideal ethical standards.

GENERAL NOTES

Conducted by M. H. Swenk

Breeding of the Florida Gallinule in Lake County, Ohio.—To my knowledge this is the first record of the Florida Gallinule breeding in this country. In late June, 1928, I discovered that a pair had remained, and judged from their actions and "talk" that they had a nest concealed somewhere along a certain point of marsh vegetation that extended into a swamp pond. Without a boat it was useless to search for the nest, but by keeping watch eventually I saw two of the young, and at the present writing (July 22) they can occasionally be seen along the edge of the water. They are in their first summer plumage.—E. A. DOOLITTLE, *Painesville, Ohio.*

The European Starling in Calhoun County, Michigan.—Late in December, 1927, the European Starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*) was first observed near Battle Creek. There was a flock of about forty-five, and these birds spent the rest of the winter in the vicinity. They fed on scattered grain found around the barn yards.

The birds were still present this summer (1928). Two nests, the first observed in the vicinity, were found. Both were in telephone poles along the roadside. Of these two nests, the eggs were destroyed in one while a brood of four was reared in the other. Nearly every orchard immediately in this vicinity had a pair of Starlings present, probably nesting.

The birds were identified by their brownish-black color, yellow bill and their noisy character. The eggs were blue.—LAWRENCE WALKINSHAW, *Battle Creek, Mich.*

The Pollination of Scarlet Sage Flowers by Hummingbirds.—The writer has been interested in the pollination of *Salvias* and other "hummingbird flowers" for quite a number of years. He does not happen to have the exact